

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PCH-02 SIG-03 MMO-01 MCT-02
AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 SS-15
SP-02 NSC-05 IO-13 SY-05 PA-01 ICA-11 /136 R

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NEA/RARPRICKETT (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT POUCH

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INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, XX

SUBJECT: FAA SECURITY SUMMARY ACS -1600-20

1. THE FOLLOWING FAA SECURITY SUMMARY IS PROVIDED FOR
YOUR INFORMATION AND AT POST'S DISCRETION MAY BE PASSED
TO HOST GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES. THE INFORMATION HAS
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BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO U.S. AIR CARRIERS AND THE
INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION BY FAA.

2. QUOTE "SUBJECT: HIGH RATE OF HIJACKING CONTINUES
DURING THE 1ST HALF OF 1978, HIJACKING ATTEMPTS CONTINUED
AT THE SAME HIGH LEVEL AS THEY DID DURING 1977.

3. A TOTAL OF 14 HIJACKING ATTEMPTS AGAINST SCHEDULED AIR CARRIERS HAS OCCURRED DURING THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1978, 4 OF WHICH WERE SUCCESSFUL. THIS FIGURE COMPARES TO 15 HIJACKING ATTEMPTS WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE 1ST HALF OF 1977, 7 OF WHICH WERE SUCCESSFUL AND 15 WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE 2ND HALF OF 1977, 9 OF WHICH WERE SUCCESSFUL.

4. AGAIN, THE HIJACKINGS THAT OCCURRED DURING 1978

WERE COMMITTED PRIMARILY BY THE LONE HIJACKER (ONE/TWO PERSONS) AS COMPARED TO A GROUP OF TERRORISTS (2 TO 6 INDIVIDUALS). REPORTEDLY, THE WEAPONS USED IN THE ATTEMPTED HIJACKINGS VARIED FROM PISTOLS TO RIFLES; ALLEGED HAND GRENADES AND EXPLOSIVES. IN ONE INCIDENT AN AXE AND SCISSORS WERE USED IN AN ATTEMPT TO DIVERT THE AIRCRAFT. TWO OF THE THREE HIJACK ATTEMPTS AGAINST U.S. AIRCRAFT WERE MADE WITHOUT ACTUAL WEAPONS; A RIFLE WAS USED IN THE THIRD INCIDENT.

5. THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE INDICATES THAT 13 OF THE 14 FLIGHTS WERE DOMESTIC AND THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE WEAPONS USED WERE INTRODUCED THROUGH THE COURSE OF PASSENGER BOARDING AND SHOULD HAVE BEEN DETECTED AND PREVENTED FROM BEING CARRIED ABOARD THE AIRCRAFT. AGAIN, THIS HIGHLIGHTS THE NEED FOR TIGHTER APPLICATION
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OF SECURITY MEASURES, REEMPHASIS OF SECURITY TRAINING, AND CLOSER SUPERVISION OF SCREENING PROCEDURES BY AIR CARRIER, AIRPORT AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL.

6. AIR CARRIER HIJACK ATTEMPTS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED TO DATE ARE AS FOLLOWS WITH FLIGHT PLAN LISTED:

JAN 18, SAETA (ECUADOR), QUITO/GUAYAQUIL (SUCCESSFUL);
JAN 20, PAKISTAN AIRLINES SUKKUR/KARACHI, PAKISTAN;
JAN 28 PEIDMONT AIRWAYS, WASHINGTON, DC/WILMINGTON, N.C.
FEB 6 CZECH AIRLINES, E. BERLIN/PRAGUE, CZECH.

(SUCCESSFUL)

MAR 2, PAKISTAN AIRLINES, ISLAMABAD/KARACHI, PAKISTAN;
MAR 9, CHINA AIRLINES, KAOSHUIUNG/TAIWAN/HONG KONG;
MAR 13, UNITED AIR LINES SAN FRANCISCO/SEATTLE;
APR 1, PEIDMONT AIRWAYS, RICHMOND/NORFOLK, VA.;
MAY 6, AEROFLOT ASHKHABAD/MINERALNYYE VODY, USSR;
MAY 10, CZECH AIRLINES, PRAGUE/BRNO (SUCCESSFUL);
MAY 11, AVIANCA, SANTA MARTA/BOGOTA, COLOMBIA;
MAY 16, AEROMEXICO, TORREON/MEXICO CITY (SUCCESSFUL);
MAY 17, CZECH AIRLINES, BRNO/PRAGUE;
MAY 29, CZECH AIRLINES, BRNO/KARLOVY VARY, CZECH."UNQUOTE

VANCE

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED TO BEIRUT.

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Message Attributes

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